

2015 consumer confidence report

May 15, 2016

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2015.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Branding Iron MWC Drinking Water Source Information:

Type of Water Source in Use: *Groundwater*

Name & Location of Source: *Well 01, Located in Kelseyville, CA*

Drinking Water Source Assessment Information:

An assessment of the drinking water source for Branding Iron MWC was conducted by the State Health Department in December, 2002. The well was determined to be located within 30 feet of a flowing creek, although not associated with any detected contaminants. The source is considered most vulnerable to the presence of certain transportation corridors, including state highways/freeways. A copy of the complete assessment is available at the California State Water Resources Control Board, 50 D St, Rm 200, Santa Rosa, CA 95404. The phone number is (707) 576-2145.



General Drinking Water Source Information

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4 AND 5 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Board allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

TABLE 1—SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

**Any violation of an MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.*

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest # of Detections	# of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	1	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment

TABLE 2—SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper	# of Samples Collected Date: 2015	90th Percentile Level Detected	# of Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	5	7.35	0	15	0.2	Internal Corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	5	0.32	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

TABLE 3—SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	11/2015	10	-	none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	11/2015	28.0	-	none	none	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

Water Hardness Classifications

Soft	< 17.1 ppm
Slightly Hard	17.1 to 60 ppm BIMWC @ 28.0 ppm
Moderately Hard	60 ~ 120 ppm
Hard	120 to 180 ppm
Very Hard	180 + ppm
Branding Iron's water is considered slightly hard at a measurement of 28 ppm.	

Every Drop Counts ~ A Message From our Water Master

In the midst of another drought year, what will we do if the well runs dry? We all must be diligent water conservationists, especially in our own community.

Here's how:

- ◆ Do not leave your sprinklers and spigots on continuously! Running a sprinkler for just 2 hours can use up to 500 gallons of water. How much to leave it on all day?
 - ◆ Adjust your sprinklers so only lawn and garden is watered, not paved areas.
- ◆ Avoid overwatering plants and shrubs. Too much water can actually diminish plant health and cause yellowing leaves.
- ◆ Run your water only when using it, either inside the house or outside. The average household uses 350 gallons of water per day just inside the house.
 - ◆ Use a broom, not a hose to clean driveway and sidewalk.

Outdoor water waste at Branding Iron is very costly to the whole community. Not only is wasting our well water risky during this dry period, it also causes overuse of the well pump and increased usage of chlorine disinfectant. Please be considerate and responsible neighbors. Stop the waste.

MAKE EVERY DROP COUNT ~ THANK YOU!

TABLE 4 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Fluoride (ppm)	2015	0.28	-	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Chlorine (ppm)	2015	0.15	<0.10 – 0.20	[MRDL=4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	[MRDLG=4 (as Cl ₂)]	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Gross Alpha (PCi/L)	2007	0.45	-	15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2015	0.120	-	1	2	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits

TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	11/2015	3.5	-	500	-	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Iron (ppb)*	11/2015	*940	-	300	-	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)*	11/2015	*73	-	50	-	Leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (uMho)	11/2015	130	-	1,600	-	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Color (units)	11/2015	5	-	15	-	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	11/2015	130	-	1000	-	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (units)	11/2015	0.35	-	5	-	Soil Runoff
Odor Threshold (units)	11/2015	1.2	-	3	-	Naturally-occurring organic materials

*****TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT*****

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS): MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Regulatory Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Variances and Exemptions: Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

ND: not detectable at testing limit

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

****Important Lead and Copper Information For
All Community Water Systems****

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Branding Iron Mutual Water Company is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

**Summary Information for Violation of a
MCL, MRDL, AL, TT,
or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement**

Summary Information for Secondary Contaminant Exceeding an MCL: *Iron and manganese were both found at levels that exceed the secondary MCL of 300 ug/L and 50 ug/L, respectively. The MCL for iron and manganese was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic effects (e.g., color, taste and odor) and the staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs and sinks) and clothing while washing. The high iron and manganese levels are due to leaching of natural deposits.

**Branding Iron MWC
Holds Quarterly Board Meetings**

**For More Information
Contact Water Master**

**Mr. Franz Waltenspuhl
Phone: (707) 928-9688**

**Additional General Information on
Drinking Water**

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).



**Branding Iron
Mutual Water Company
2015
Consumer Confidence Report**

